Sediment Retention Control Structure

Michigan CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM CREP – CP26

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) June 2014

Photo Courtesy of USDA NRCS

WHAT IS A SEDIMENT RETENTION CONTROL STRUCTURE?

Sediment Retention Control Structures are earth embankments or a combination ridge and channel generally constructed across the slope and minor watercourses to form a sediment trap and temporary water detention basin.

Vegetation established as a component of the Sediment Retention Control Structure will also provide habitat for a variety of wildlife, especially upland game birds and songbirds.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for this practice for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), the land must be located in the Saginaw Bay, River Raisin, Western Lake Erie, or Lake Macatawa Watersheds, and the land must have a cropping history (4 out of 6 years from 2008 - 2014). Plus, there must be an existing resource concern present that can be addressed with a Sediment Retention Control Structure.

Ponds, Wetland Restorations, Wetland Enhancements, nor Wetland Creations are eligible under CREP CP26. If wildlife habitat is the only resource concern, the site is not eligible for a CREP CP26. However, the site may be eligible for a Wetland Restoration through CREP or other USDA programs.

CREP POLICY

For CREP, an upland buffer at least 20 ft. wide, and up to 120 ft. wide surrounding the Sediment Retention Control Structure must be enrolled and planted to Native Grasses and Wildflowers (Big &/or Little Bluestem, Indiangrass, Canada Wild Rye, Switchgrass, etc. – consult the **"Michigan CREP Eligible Wildflowers List"** for eligible wildflowers) or Native Shrubs. The temporarily inundated portion of the Sediment Retention Control Structure will be seeded to Switchgrass, and the embankment seeded to Native Grasses and Wildflowers at a heavier seeding rate.

For CREP, the inundated portion of each Sediment Retention Control Structure will not exceed 1 acre. Plus, the total acreage of all CP26 water areas plus buffers will not exceed 10 acres, and all CP26s must be on one contract.

CREP Sediment Retention Control Structures will be established according to the Water and Sediment Control Basin (638) in the local Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). All construction and seeding must be completed within 12 months of contract effective date of CRP-1 to remain in compliance. If circumstances beyond the landowner's control prohibit completion within the first 12 months, the local FSA County Committee may approve an extension to the next construction and planting season.

CONSTRUCTION

Permits: Federal, State, Local, and Tribal laws and regulations may apply to private landowners conducting construction for Sediment Retention Control Structures. All necessary permits shall be acquired by the landowner before construction begins.

BUFFER, EMBANKMENT, AND INUNDATED PORTION GRASS PLANTING

It is very important to plant Native grasses into a weed-free, firm seedbed. If the field is currently in cropland, weed control efforts should begin prior to planting. Use herbicide or tillage to eliminate competing vegetation. If necessary for erosion control, seed a temporary cover, or apply mulch on critical areas. Eliminate the temporary vegetation at planting time with tillage or herbicides.

If the field is currently in sod, begin weed control efforts using broad-spectrum herbicides in the fall. Apply herbicides again after the spring green-up prior to planting (if possible, a prescribed burn prior to spring green up to remove the dead litter from the fall treatment will provide best results).

Contact your local Michigan State University (MSU) Extension Agent for specific herbicides to use. **Apply all herbicides according to the label**.

Plant the vegetation according to the attached plan/design sheet. Apply lime and fertilizer according to needs determined by a soil test and MSU recommendations.

Use a drill designed for the seed to be planted, or the seed may be broadcast or aerial seeded. For aerial or broadcast seeding, the seedbed must be worked up and firmed with a cultipacker or similar equipment. A carrier such as potash may also be needed to spread the seed evenly. **After aerial or broadcast seeding, the site must be rolled or cultipacked to ensure proper seed to soil contact.** Regardless of the method, plant the seeds **no deeper than** ¼ in.

Mow, burn, or apply herbicides as needed to control unwanted vegetation until a ***Final*** Status Review is issued. Mow when competing weeds are taller than the planted vegetation, and at a height above the planted vegetation. **Native grasses will not be mowed lower than 12 inches**.

For shrubs, until a ***Final*** Status Review is issued, 9 sq. ft. around each shrub should remain weed-free to maximize growth. Fabric weed barriers are very effective at minimizing weed competition, but are not eligible for CREP cost-share. **Mowing** is not allowed for weed control for shrubs.**

For additional information on establishment and maintenance, see the following NRCS – Michigan Conservation Sheets (available at http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/ in Section IV): "Tree/ Shrub Planting for: Reforestation, Windbreaks, and Wildlife", "Weed Control for Tree and Shrub Establishment", "Establishing Prairie Grass Buffer Strips", "Prescribed Burning", &/or others.

For additional information on herbicide controls, contact your local MSU Extension Agent. **Always apply herbicides according to labeled directions.**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Follow the Operation and Maintenance Plan developed for the Sediment Retention Control Structure.

Noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests shall be controlled, including such maintenance as necessary to avoid detrimental effects to the surrounding land. Some of the most common pests that need controlled on CRP acreage include Autumn Olive, Multiflora Rose, Spotted Knapweed, Quackgrass, etc.

After the Final Status Review, maintain the planting according to your CREP conservation plan. Maintenance activities are allowed only on a spot basis and only if necessary to maintain stand health, maintain stand diversity, or control pests that will damage the CREP cover or adjacent lands. Burning must be in accordance with a prescribed burn plan. See the Conservation Information Sheet "Prescribed Burning" for further information. For grasses, **MOWING** is only authorized between Aug 1st and Aug 20th to protect ground-nesting wildlife and to allow re-growth for winter cover. **MOWING** is not allowed for weed control for CREP shrub maintenance. Other maintenance activities are only allowed between August 1 – May 1st (i.e. - outside of the Primary Nesting and Brood-Rearing season). If maintenance activities are needed at times other than these, the FSA County Committee **must** approve the maintenance activity **prior to** the activity occurring.

For shrubs, replacement of dead shrubs will occur to ensure at least 80% of the shrubs are living. The landowner is responsible for replacement costs.

Mowing for generic weed control or for cosmetic purposes is prohibited.

Livestock must be excluded from the Sediment Retention Control Structure.

REQUIRED MANAGEMENT

All new CREP contracts must have mid-term contract management activities scheduled that are site specific and will ensure plant diversity, wildlife habitat, and protection of soil and water resources. See the Mid-Contract Management Sheet for the requirements for your contract.

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

For optimum wildlife habitat, plant a diversity of grasses, wildflowers, legumes, &/or shrubs. This mixture will provide winter and nesting cover, flowers for pollinating insects, as well as a good seed and insect source for food.

Sediment Retention Control Structure DESIGN WORKSHEET CREP CP26

Landowner: **County:**

Inundated Portion Acres:

Farm: Tract: Field(s): **Embankment Acres:** Date:

Buffer Acres:

Sediment Retention Control Structure Construction in Year:

☐ **See map and NRCS or Certified Technical Service Provider-approved engineering designs for details. A Pre-Construction Meeting will occur with NRCS or the TSP to ensure the Design is understood and followed.**

BUFFER, EMBANKMENT, AND INUNDATED PORTION SEEDING

(PLS #/ACRE = PURE LIVE SEED LB/AC)

NATIVE GRASS BUFFER (see map for location)		RATE PLS#/ac	TOTAL = (RATE X Acres)	
☐			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
	WILDFLOWERS+		0.0	Lb.
	SHRUBS++		Total Number	

EMBANKMENT		RATE	TOTAL = (RATE X Acres)	
☐			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.

+**Recommended Wildflowers include:**

- **(see the "Michigan CREP Eligible Wildflower List" for additional species)**

++**Recommended Shrubs include:**

INUNDATED PORTION MIX (see map for location)		RATE PLS#/ac	TOTAL = (RATE X Acres)	
☐	SWITCHGRASS	5.0	0.0	Lb.
			0.0	Lb.

NOTES:

BEFORE PLANTING in Year:

☐ Herbicide$_1$ **(per label)**: Dates =

☐ Herbicide$_2$ **(per label)**: Dates =

☐ Tillage: Dates =

☐ Temporary Seeding:

☐ **Apply fertilizer and lime according to an approved soil test and MSU recommendations for "establishing native grasses".**

☐ Other:

PLANTING METHOD IN YEAR:

☐ **Shrub Planting Method:** **:**

☐ **Grass Planting Method:**

Dates =

(If unforeseen circumstances prohibit the planting of the grass by this date, please contact our office as soon as possible)

SHRUB POST-PLANTING MAINTENANCE for Pest Control

☐ **Maintain a 9 sq. ft. weed & grass-free area around each tree/shrub for up to 3 years for optimal growth***

☐ Tree/Shrub Herbicide* **(per label)**: Dates* =

☐ Other:**

***NOTE: after the Final Status Review has been issued, all maintenance activities (MOWING** is not authorized for maintaining trees) will only be conducted between August 1 & May 1st, and pests will be treated on a "spot" basis only, unless prior approval is granted by the FSA County Committee.**

**** MOWING may be conducted between the rows to control pests from August 1 - 20, and pests will be treated on a "spot" basis only, unless prior approval is granted by the FSA County Committee.**

GRASS AND WILDFLOWER POST-PLANTING MAINTENANCE for Pest Control

☐ **Mowing*: BEFORE FINAL STATUS REVIEW = mow when the weeds are taller than the planted grasses (minimum mowing height = 12 inches for Native Grasses).**

AFTER FINAL STATUS REVIEW* = mow when the weeds are taller than the planted grasses (minimum mowing height = 12 inches for Native Grasses).

☐ Herbicide* **(per label)**: ☐ Prescribed Burning*: According to an approved plan

☐ Other:*

***NOTE:** After the Final Status Review has been issued, weeds will be treated on a "spot" basis only, unless prior approval is granted by the County Committee. Spot treatment options include mowing between August 1 & 20 and other activities between August 1 & March 31

LOCATION AND LAYOUT SKETCH & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Reset Form

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